

Message Text

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PAGE 01 COPENH 00287 011812Z

44

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 SR-02 ORM-03 VO-03 SCA-01 SS-20

NSC-10 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 DODE-00 PRS-01

L-03 SSO-00 INSE-00 NSCE-00 /094 W

----- 038076

R 011538Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8421

INFO AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMMBASSY BONN 1277

AMCONSUL FRANKFURT

USMISSION GENEVA

AMCONSUL HAMBURG

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

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FRANKFURT AND VIENNA FOR INS AND CONSUL

EO. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SREF, CIVS, PL, DA, US

SUBJECT: REFUGEES: M/V "STEFAN BATORY" PASSENGERS

SEEK ASYLUM

1. DANISH PRESS REPORTS FEBRUARY 1 THAT 81 POLISH PASSENGERS ON POLISH M/V "STEFAN BATORY" DEFECTED WHILE ON PLEASURE CRUISE, 64 REPORTEDLY LEFT IN HAMBURG AND 12 AND 5 IN COPENHAGEN AND OSLO RESPECTIVELY. SAME SOURCES INDICATE PASSENGER TOTAL WAS 325 WHEN SHIP DEPARTED GDANSK.

2. DANISH REFUGEE COUNCIL (DRC) INFORMED EMBOFF THAT TOTAL OF 12 FOR COPENHAGEN IS QUESTIONABLE AS ONLY TWO REFUGEES HAVE SO FAR SURFACED. MOREOVER, AS VESSEL
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DEPARTED COPENHAGEN ONE AND A HALF HOURS PRIOR SCHEDULED

DEPARTURE TIME, THERE IS POSSIBILITY THAT SOME WHO MISSED THEIR SAILING DID SO UNINTENTIONALLY. DRC CONFIRMS REPORT THAT ONE POLE HAS CONTACTED DANISH AUTHORITIES REQUESTING ASYLUM IN DENMARK.

3. SECOND REFUGEE CITED IS PROBABLY RYSZARD SZUSTAKOWSKI, DPOB APRIL 5, 1952, RASZYN, POLAND, POLISH PPT. PA 606253, ISSUED WARSAW, 5 "USTOP" (SIC), 1973. HE VISITED EMBASSY LATE JANUARY 30, ADVISING HE HAD DEFECTED FROM "BATORY" A FEW HOURS EARLIER, AND REQUESTED ASSISTANCE IN PROCEEDING TO US WHERE HE HAD A RELATIVE LIVING IN CHICAGO. HE IDENTIFIED HIMSELF AS A RR SLEEPING-CAR CONDUCTRO AND SAID THAT HE LEFT POLAND BECAUSE OF HIS DETESTATION OF THE COMMUNIST POLITICAL SYSTEM. EMBASSY ASSISTED HIM WITH FOOD AND SHELTER AND ARRANGED FOR HIM TO CONTACT DRC OPENING OF BUSINESS JANUARY 31. DRC HAS ADVISED EMBASSY THAT SZUSTAKOWSKI IS NOW EN ROUTE TO VIENNA OR HAS ALREADY ARRIVED THERE, WHERE HIS DESIRE TO APPLY FOR ENTRY INTO THE UNITED STATES AS A REFUGEE WILL BE FACILITATED BY A VOLUNTARY AGENCY, PROBABLY INTERNATIONAL RESCUE COMMITTEE.

4. IN ADDITION TO HIS NATIVE POLISH, SZUSTAKOWSKI HA A SMATTERING OF RUSSAIN AND KNOWS A FEW WORDS OF ENGLISH. HE OBVIOUSLY WAS UNDER STRAIN AND FEARFUL OF BEING "RECAPTURED" BY POLES. NEVERTHELESS, EMBASSY ASSESSES HIM ON BASIS OF THIS VERY LIMITED CONTACT AS SINCERE IF SOMEWHAT EXCITABLE YOUNG MAN, WHO IS OPPOSED TO PRESENT REGIME IN POLAND. EMBASSY DOUBTS THAT HE HAS ANY PARTICULARLY NOTEWORTHY PROFESSIONAL SKILLS. EXEMPT FROM AUTOMATIC DECONTROL. DUNNIGAN

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